



WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 5, 2013

8:00 am

Public Works Meeting Room

Meeting called by: Jason Skeels and Ellie Kurth

Type of meeting: Regularly Scheduled

Present: Steve Mabee (acting Chair), Steve Dunn, Rebecca Fricke (Ag. Comm.), Ellie Kurth (Staff Liaison), Guilford Mooring (Public Works Superintendent), Jesse Schwalbaum, Jason Skeels (Staff Liaison), John Tobiason, Brian Yellen.

MINUTES

1. Minutes approved from April 4th, 2013, meeting with two small changes: (1) item 3a, Hillcrest Ave old 4" CI will be replaced by new 6" ductile iron line, and (2) item 8b, UMass water tank will be cleaned and painted over the summer (not relined).
2. Snow and ice treatment options for roads: Driven by cost. Desire to stop using sand, partly for dust issue—EPA's change from 10 micron to 2.5 micron health risk standard. Also, sand takes more time. Current plan is to use up stock of sand & salt (probably on next storm), then change to Ice Ban-type product (MgCl with pre-wetting agent) followed by NaCl (100 lbs/mile). Past practice used 4:1 (sand:NaCl) mixture applied as needed. Thus the total salt (Na) used in future may increase or decrease depending on conditions and need for repeated treatments. An increase in Mg and decrease in Na would be desirable, but it's unclear if less NaCl will be used. The liquid used to aid salt adhesion to road contains corn or sugar cane by-product, and these organic compounds consume oxygen as they breakdown. Eutrophication could result if used in unusually large quantities. The Committee supports the change as proposed and requests monitoring and report back of the quantities of salts used, the nature and quality of the binding product used, and the effectiveness of the new method.
3. Update on sewer and water line extensions and replacements
 - a. Hillcrest Avenue: work complete. All done in-house, 6" new main. Positive feedback.
 - b. Old Town Road: work complete. Some 6" on old 2" main. Main now looped for better circulation. No complaints regarding quality.
 - c. Amherst Road in Pelham: Sewer extension project—completed. Waiting for State to do paving.
 - d. Harkness Road and Amherst Woods: Advertised for bids, Sept 28th. DEP sewer extension permit pending. If proceeds as hoped, with Pelham's permission, work will start this fall. (Phase 1: Log Town to Teaberry)

- e. Pine Street: Designed in-house, Awarded to F&J Construction, ~6000' of new 12" water and sewer lines. Hoping construction begins in next 2-3 wks.
- 4. Wells, water treatment plants, and storage tanks:
 - a. Update on Centennial WTP upgrades: still planning to do pilot testing this fall. Tighe & Bond doing some of the testing. Replacement booster pump in Pelham, currently being constructed.
 - b. Well 4 pump work: impellers (bottom two) damaged by unknown cause. Some corrosion reported. May never know what happened.
 - c. UMass tank rehab and meter pit: Redid the meter pit and got the tank filled just in time for student's return. New 8" water main being looped into UMass stadium as part of the stadium construction work. Will include new meters.
- 5. Recent grant applications: (1) Pending application to State for Atkin's Dam to address seepage issue. State funds available for dam work; announcement to deadline was short. (2) Pending request to State EEA for funds to acquire ~11 acres of western watershed of Atkins Reservoir. Cinda Jones intends to sell two building lots near the NW corner of Atkins Reservoir. This purchase would include land just to the south of the building lots.
- 6. Watershed Protection activities
 - a. Amherst Road timber harvest: Project complete, across from Hawley Reservoir.
 - b. Other Conservation Department work: Standard vegetation cutting, cleaning culverts, etc.
- 7. Other items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before the meeting: Old landfill will have some re-grading done this fall. Solar project on hold for time being.
- 8. Next Meeting: January 23rd 8:00am.
- 9. Adjourned at 9:05am.